Uttar Pradesh & Haryana at a total cost of Rs. 678 crore. The second phase of the Yamuna Action Plan was launched with JBIC's assistance in December, 2004. The major items of works under YAP-II include the following:

* Rehabilitation of trunk sewers (30.82 kms) and works of Sewage Treatment Plants (135 million litres per day [mld] new and 324 mld rehabilitation) in Delhi.
* Construction of Sewage Treatment Plant (38 mld) and Rehabilitation of Sewer Lines/Rising Mains (85.7 Kms) in UP.
* Rehabilitation of Sewer Lines (73 Kms.) and improvements in efficiencies of existing Sewage Treatment Plants in Haryana.
* Preparation of Detailed Project Report for projects to be taken up in the next Phase.

(c) and (d) The original cost of the YAP-I was Rs. 344 crore which was increased to Rs. 715 crore in various stages due to a host of factors which included taking up more works under the Plan. The YAP-II with an approved cost of Rs. 624 crore is scheduled to be completed by September, 2008.

Decline of Farm Forestry in Punjab

3716. DR. M.S. GILL:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Farm Forestry in the State of Punjab has declined considerably in the recent past due to lack of market and remunerative prices for the wood.

(b) whether Government of Punjab has taken up the issue of setting up of a wood based mega project with the Central Government to create demand and proper marketing for wood to ensure remunerative prices; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) As per the progress reports of tree planting under the 20-Point Programme, the annual average

achievement of tree planting on private lands was 20.2 lakh seedlings during the Tenth Five year Plan (as on 31.12.2005) as compared to 43.4 lakh seedlings during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not received any specific project proposal for setting-up of a wood based mega project in Punjab State to create proper demand for farm grown wood. It is also to mention that the Ministry is not implementing any scheme whereunder financial assistance can be provided for such projects.

Multi-Stakholder partnership for afforestation of degraded land

3717. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have mooted a multi-stakeholder partnership for afforestation of degraded lands in the country with the help of private people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a document has been prepared and discussed the same with industry associations and States in December, 2005, and January, 2006;

(d) if so, the details of the discussion; and

(e) to what extent, this measue would help in bringing the forest cover to one third of the country's total land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Preparation of the framework for multi-stakeholder partnership (MSP) for forestation of degraded lands has been initiated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The proposed framework envisages a tripartite arrangement between the land owning agency, the local village community and the sponsor who may be a company, firm, user group, trust, society or organization in public or private sector.

(c) and (d) The industry associations and the representatives of the States and Union Terrorities have, in general, welcomed the MSP approach.